

25X1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Grossenhain Airfield

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 21 December 1951

25X1 DATE PREPARED 5 February 1952

25X1

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

**REFERENCE COPY**

**DO NOT CIRCULATE**

25X1

1. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] at Grossenhain airfield, the personnel previously stationed at the field, including both ground personnel and the flying personnel with the officers' dependents, were transferred to the U.S.S.R. Only nine jet planes and the necessary flight and maintenance personnel remained at the field.

[redacted] the personnel of the nine jet aircraft would be also transferred to the U.S.S.R. as soon as the new personnel were trained to fly jet planes. [redacted] only one officer's family was billeted outside the field. The officer's wife said that her husband was a jet pilot. (1)

2. Nine jet planes were parked north of the large runway up to 21 December. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] (2) No formation flying was observed. The jet planes flew individually or in groups of two, and remained aloft only for a short time. While jet planes were aloft, there was also flying by the conventional planes which took off from and landed on the sodded strip. (3) Six single-engine planes and nine biplanes were counted.

3. The use of searchlights was described as follows. Before flying started, a searchlight located near the large Spital pond flashed up and directed its beam to the jet plane which, in the meantime, taxied to the take-off point. The plane remained in the beam of light up to the moment it became airborne and reached an altitude of 100 to 200 meters. When a plane was about to make a landing, the searchlight lighted the runway strip just in front of the plane while the plane itself remained in the dark. The plane taxied to a stop following the light beam. Another searchlight, which usually flashed up while the planes were still aloft, remained in operation during night flying. The beam rotated over the field a short distance over the ground. It was observed that the beams of both searchlights crossed each other while rotating. Flying jet planes were not observed in the beam of the searchlights. It was seldom observed that a searchlight rotated upward. (4)

Comments.

(1) The statements that the old fighter regiments were transferred to the U.S.S.R. and that only a small number of aircraft remained agree with previous information. However, it is doubted that the two OATBs were transferred to the U.S.S.R. because, according to previous reports, fuel was repeatedly shipped from Velten fuel depot in November and December 1951 to the two units

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

25X1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Document No.

No Change in Class. ☐

☐ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS

Auth: [redacted]

Date: [redacted]

25X1

25X1 After 7 December, Grossenhain airfield was again occupied by two new fighter regiments with new personnel who conducted initial jet pilot training. The information that the new personnel were trained by pilots of the old regiments who were left behind is believed to be correct. The small number of MiG-15s agrees with the observations [redacted] and confirms the previous assumption that the new regiments have not been equipped with aircraft to their authorized strength.

25X1 (2)

- [redacted]
- (3) The type of flying observed agrees with all reports received from other airfields occupied by new fighter regiments and confirms that, to the present, only initial flying was practiced with MiG-15s.
  - (4) The statements on searchlight activity during night flying agree with previous information received from other airfields of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army. This detailed description is received for the first time.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 25X1  
~~SECRET~~ [redacted]